

Overview

- 1. Overview: Community Forum #1 Results
- 2. What is a Vision Statement?
- 3. Why does the Plan need one?
- 4. How is it written?
- 5. Draft Vision Statement: Lafayette 2035
- 6. Discussion
- 7. Next Steps



Community Forum #1 6 Community Forums 29+ Meetings in a Box Over 1,065 total participants

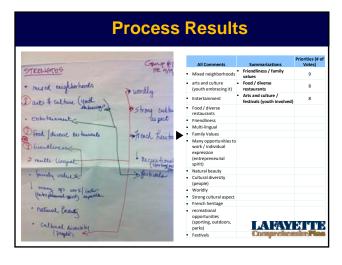
Community Forum #1

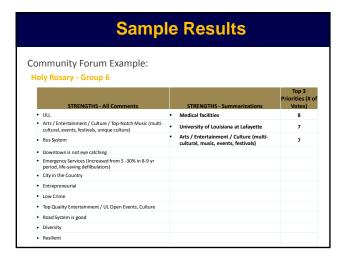
Meetings in a Box:

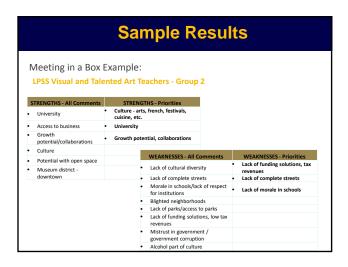
- Fenstermaker
- the705
- Adult French meeting at Vermilionville
- Annie Perret, Host
- Greater Southwest Louisiana Black Chamber of Commerce
- Bridge Ministry of Acadiana
- Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce
- Coldwell Banker Pelican Real Estate
- CPCAC
- Debbie Dixey, Host
- Holden Heights La Place Coterie
- Leadership Lafayette
- LPSS Visual and Talented Art Teachers

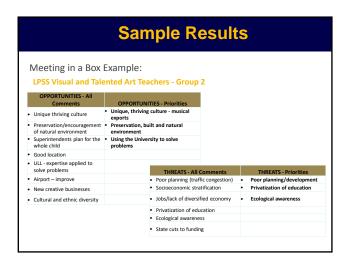
- Nancy Gomez, host
- Northwood United Methodist
- Realtor Association of Acadiana
- Sierra Club
- St. Barnabas Episcopal Church
- Sue Sewall, Host
- Tea Party
- The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Traffic and Transportation Dept., LCG
- Trees Acadiana
- United Way of Acadiana
- Upper Lafayette Economic Development Foundation
- Young French Professionals
- Youth Advisory Council











Processing the Results

- Results grouped into common strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities
- Ordered by how often ideas came up and how they were prioritized





Results – Summary Strengths SUMMARY - Community Strengths Cultural attributes, big city amenities, small town feel, festivals, food, arts, Cajun influence, heritage, 'joie de vivre', tourism People: community oriented, friendly, open minded, positive, progressive, 'can-do' spirit, entrepreneurial people, willingness to be involved and help, Southern University of Louisiana at Lafayette: collaborations with business community, brings 2 diversity and economic power to area Economic base, economic diversity, oil and energy industry, health industry, 3 agriculture base Natural environment and recreation, natural beauty, Horse Farm, natural resources (bayous, ecosystems) Small business support and entrepreneurial support/spirit 6 High economic growth area and entrepreneurship, technological innovations (fiber) Family-friendly, family wellness - social services, elementary education, well educated Accessibility, geographic location, retail and transportation hub for region, convenient Affordability, variety of neighborhood types, choices

	SUBMANARY Community Weeknesses	
	SUMMARY - Community Weaknesses	Rank
	Transportation infrastructure: traffic, poor road conditions, lack of public transportation, bike lanes, pedestrian access, lack of Interstate loop around City	1
	Poor public schools, no revenue sources, buildings in bad shape	2
	Apathy, ignorance, unwillingness to accept new ideas and change, overall lack of public engagement	3
•	Political in-fighting, no coordination, lack of transparency and accountability, 'old boys club,' red tape	4
•	Sprawl, no land use/zoning controls, new development without services in outlying areas, uneven development patterns from North to South side of town	5
•	North/South division along socioeconomic lines, inequality, racial disparities, isolated poverty	6
	Lack of parks, bike trails, recreation activities	7
•	Lack of regional cooperation, lack of true government consolidation	8
	Lack of respect for environment, litter, sedimentation of bayous	9
	City aesthetics: lack of identity and identifiable core, Johnston Street - visual noise, blight and urban decay, no gateways, too many big boxes	10

Results – Summary Threats Lack of diverse economic base, out-migration, maintaining current economic base, Maintain local business/identity, dependence on oil economy Urban growth issues (sprawl), transportation – traffic, lack of multi-modal options. poor planning overall, lack of urban growth boundary, increase in urban blight Overall condition of public school system, declining trends and lack of improvement • Community apathy, complacency, failure to act, fragmentation, insular attitudes, low expectations • Lack of integration/ government consolidation, political infighting, lack of unified political leadership, Managing government finances, no support for taxes Climate preparedness, environmental decline, abuse of natural resources 6 • Lack of funding/revenue sources, state umbrella over region is inadequate (pay more into system than receive back) Demographic trends: brain drain / out-migration while aging of population, lack of 8 ability to create skilled workforce, lack of economic opportunity No vision or consensus: public input ignored, self interested factions, politicians don't listen to community Polarization of community, social and political change/upheaval

Results – Summary Opportuni			
SUMMARY - Community Opportunities	Rank		
Build off existing cultural attributes, nurture current assets, and create new entertainment industries to make Lafayette more of a destination, increase tourism	1		
Increase University partnerships with business community and schools – apprenticeships, radical partnerships and collaboration	2		
Support current economic base but diversify, explore new industries, green energy, invest in innovation, parish-wide telecommunications, expand fiber	3		
Renew and redevelop urban core, build off cultural assets in downtown to create tourist hub, market nationally, infill development, curb sprawl	4		
Improve education: K-12, new direction	5		
Build off highly educated workforce, encourage knowledge sharing among community	6		
Regional cooperation, use Plan to bring people together and implement ideas, coordinated City-Parish efforts through land use/zoning and recreation	7		
Capitalize on community involvement, spirit, increase awareness of community programs, increase collaboration	8		
Preserve existing open space and develop Vermilion River for recreation opportunities	9		
Improve property upkeep and overall aesthetics along transportation corridors, I- 49/I-10 frontage roads and still focus on efficiency	10		

Less Frequent (but still important) Ideas

- Improve communication with Hispanic community
- Adult education, job training
- Increase safety, better police presence
- Bi-lingual (French) business resources and services
- Less government, fiscally responsible government



What is a Vision Statement?

- An expression of the community's collective values and aspirations expressed by citizens.
- A detailed description of what the community wants to become in the future – an image of the desired "end-state" character of Lafayette in 20 years.
- The destination for the Comprehensive Plan- the Vision Statement sets the stage for defining (through the Plan) "how we get there."

Why is a Vision Statement needed?

It frames and sets direction for the Comprehensive Plan – all aspects of the plan are from now on measured against the Vision:

- Where are we now? (Existing Conditions)
- Where are we headed? (Trend Scenario)
- Do we need to make course corrections to realize our vision? If yes, what are the possible paths we can take? (Alternative Scenarios)
- Which of these directions is right for us? What are we prepared to do? (*Preferred Scenario/Policy Framework*)
- How do we get there? (Implementation/Action Plan)

Attributes of the Vision Statement

- · Succinct (easy to communicate, easy to remember)
- · Clear (uses plain language)
- Future focused (written from the desired end-state's point of view)
- Both comprehensive and specific
- · Both abstract and challenging
- · Emphasizes:
 - Fundamental values
 - o A collective identity
 - o The community's uniqueness

Next Steps

- 1. Initial CPCAC comments to LCG in writing (email)
- Additional CPCAC meeting(s), if necessary, to reach consensus on/endorse Vision Statement for public review
- 3. June 30 Open House to unveil Vision Statement
- 4. Public review and input (2-3 week period)
- 5. Final revisions and review/endorsement by Planning Commission and Council

